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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/687,439	10/14/2003	Dale W. Malik	190250-1560	8794
38823 7590 03/17/2008 THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP/ AT&T Delaware Intellectual Property, Inc. 600 GALLERIA PARKWAY, S.E. SUITE 1500 ATLANTA, GA 30339-5994				
EXAMINER				
VU, VIET DUY				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2154				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/17/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/687,439

Applicant(s)

MALIK ET AL.

Examiner

Viet Vu

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 28-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SG/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/08
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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Art Rejections:

1. The texts of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) cited in the previous office action are hereby incorporated by reference.

2. Claims 28-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mastrianni, U.S. pat. Appl. Pub. No.

2002/0116641, in view of Gatz et al, U.S. pat. Appl. Pub. No.

2002/0049806.

Per claim 28, Mastrianni discloses a communications system comprising:

a) a user interface application for an email service (e.g., web browser, mail client), the user interface application residing on a computer (200) (see par. 18);

b) a communication manager (304) residing on the computer configured to track user activity and regulate a level of communications that occurs for an active user based upon a classification of the active user as either an adult or a child, the communication manager (see par. 20), wherein the user interface application provides an identity of the active user to the communication manager such that a user interface is arranged according to settings for the active user such that a user having a child persona is restricted from configuring email accounts accessed by the communication manager for the active

user having the child persona and a subset of operations performed by the communication manager unless authorized by a user having an adult persona (see par. 35-36).

Mastrianni does not teach explicitly establishing or designating parent and child account types. The use of parent and child account types for providing better control of the child network usage is disclosed by Gatz (see Gatz in par. 66-75).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize Gatz parent/child account designation in Mastrianni because it would have provided better control of the child network usage.

Per claim 29, Mastrianni discloses a communication system as discussed in item 2 above. Mastrianni does not teach filtering other types of messages including instant messages. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to practice Mastrianni's with other known types of messages including instant messages because it would have provided protection to a child user from receiving harmful messages/contents from the Internet (see Gatz in par. 87).

Per claims 30-31, Mastrianni teaches enabling filtering emails per user, i.e., emails addressed to different accounts/mail boxes (see par. 28).

Per claims 32-34, Mastrianni teaches notifying the active adult user of new emails and requesting adult's approval of questionable emails addressed to a child (see par. 29, 32, 36).

Per claims 35-48, Mastrianni teaches configuring by the adult user the communication system for blocking emails and/or Internet contents delivered to a child user (see par. 21).

Mastrianni does not explicitly teach restricting the child user from configuring the message filtering communication system.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to recognize such restriction of the system configuration to authorized adult user only because allowing system access by any users including child user would have defeated purpose of Mastrianni's message filtering.

Response to Amendment:

3. Applicant's arguments filed on February 21, 2008 are moot in view of new ground of rejection set forth above.

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Viet Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3977. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 4:00pm. The Group general information number is 571-272-2100. The Group fax number is 571-273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn, can be reached on 571-272-1915.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Viet Vu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2154
2/26/08